

509,489  
Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 SEP 2004

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
12 September 2003 (12.09.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 03/073880 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A42B 3/30

(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA02/01817

(22) International Filing Date:  
27 November 2002 (27.11.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2,376,047 5 March 2002 (05.03.2002) CA

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: WHELEN, Garth [CA/CA]; c/o Slap Headin'  
Enterprises, 50 Cramond Close SE, Calgary, Alberta T3M  
1C1 (CA).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,  
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,  
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,  
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE,  
SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US,  
UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

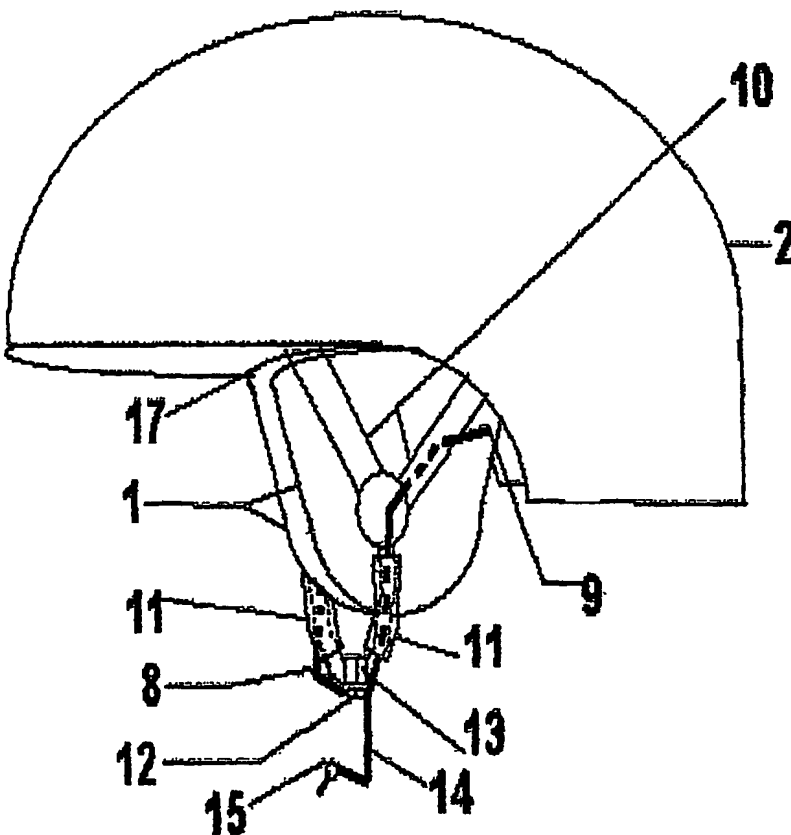
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,  
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK,  
TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,  
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i)) for all designations
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: EAR FLAPS FOR HELMETS



(57) Abstract: Ear flap/warmers (1) found in sporting helmets (2) allow the wearer to connect to and utilize external audio (stereo) reproduction and/or 2-way communication devices with added convenience over previous inventions by incorporating a mechanical electrical interconnect (12) located in or by replacing, the helmet chinstrap connection. The user can conveniently don or remove said EAR FLAPS (1) equipped helmet by disconnecting and reconnecting said interconnect. Added convenience to EAR FLAPS (1) can be provided by use of multifunctional chinstrap connection mechanical electrical interconnects (12) providing the benefits of the electrical interconnect (12) with the functioning to secure the sporting helmet (2) chinstraps (10). Where applicable said multifunctional chinstrap connection can also incorporate a built in microphone and (where applicable and not installed in said ear flap/warmers) circuitry, resistors and/or switches to allow the function of audio reproduction and 2-way communication through the same EAR FLAPS (1) equipped helmet (2).



WO 03/073880 A1



- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only
- as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rule 4.17(v)) for all designations
- as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rule 4.17(v)) for all designations
- with a declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

**Published:**

- with international search report